

Greg KOLBENYI -201.

AIR

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

RE: 1171

Chief, SE

17 December 1952

Chief of Base, Lullach

Operational/CI. ER

General ZAKO/. ERK/1-1441

1. For what it is worth, (and with the preamble that we are not by any means well-informed of the wheels within wheels and internecine strife of the Hungarian exigration), some comments of U/. made 16 December 1952 regarding ZAKO, ERK, and U/'s chief of Hungarian operations.

2. U/. states V-1441, a former Colonel in the Hungarian Army, is a member of ERK, with the fullest approval of U/. But he maintains that V-1441 is not a ZAKO man, indeed, is known among Hungarian ex-igree circles to be associated with American intelligence but to be firmly anti-ZAKO. U/. considers an association of Hungarian Veterans both inevitable and desirable, but deplores ZAKO, especially the fabrication activities of the latter, and feels V-1441's continued membership in ERK is a contributing factor to the drift of ERK away from ZAKO and his ultimate repudiation by the Hungarian migration. (C. H. B. T. We do feel that U/. cannot be accused of fabrication, whatever his other faults; any report he submits based on refugee interrogation is clearly so labelled. We also feel any association of U/. personnel, or V-1441's own, with ZAKO people, would swiftly come to light, as ZAKO has so many different outlets, and would surely utilize the rather sizeable volume of reports V-1441 has access to, if he could.)

3. U/. also stated ZAKO is rapidly losing ground, with even the French becoming cool. ZAKO will shortly move to BUCH, and is striving with all his might to secure backing of German intelligence, to which end he has approached Willi H. B. L., thinking thus to reach G. H. B. Allegedly, even Otto von H. B. L. is tiring of ZAKO. (C. H. B. T. In recent conversations with the actual "intelligence" collectors of radio-free Europe in BUCH, I have discovered an appalling reliance on ZAKO, whose so-called "networks" provide a large part of the Hungarian material of H. B. L. This may be the cause of his transfer to BUCH, if he feels he has at last really found a berth with the U.S. We are unable to consider H. B. L.'s reliance on ZAKO people as anything but most unfortunate.)

4. While we do not propose to embark upon a study of pro and contra ZAKO factions, and other aspects of the Hungarian exiles, we will appreciate receiving any information from addressees suggesting links between U/'s endeavors and the product of Hungarian ex-igree paper mills, or any data felt pertinent for our enlightenment.

Approved by: _____

DIST:

5-ER

3-ERK

1-CALE (DIRECT)

ER

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Report for Comments

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